What action has been taken in regard to those six parties? You have simply said, "Payments from whom are awaited".

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: Bank guarantees of the six parties have been invoked. We have yet to receive the payment from the Banks, we are awaiting the payment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That means, you are taking action.

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: We have invoked the guarantee. About the first part of the question in regard to a communication gap of seven days, we are arranging that there is no gap like this, but there is no financial loss to the Government that we have assured.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know the dates on which deliveries were given to all those who had purchased from you. If the deliveries were given even after the receipt of the communication, what action has been taken against them for the loss to the STC?

SHRI BRAHM DUTT: I have got the delivery dates for the 10 firms. Tini Pharma was given delivery on 5th March, Nirlac on 10th, the other on 5th, the other on 7th, the other on 5th, then on 7th, 7th, 7th, 6th. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think about the rest of the answer you can write to the Member concerned.

Next Question.

U.N. Peace keeping army for Sri Lanka

*265. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHLAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would exercise their good offices to request the United Nations to send its peace keeping army to Sri Lanka in order to enforce a cease-fire there: and

(b) if not, what are the alternative methods by which India propose to stop the killings in Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

There is no proposal at present to request the United Nations to send peace keeping forces for enforcing a cease-fire in Sri Lanka.

Government belive that only nagotiated political solution can bring peace and put a stop to the killings in Sri Lanka. Government have made available their good offices for the purpose of working out an acceptable political solution to ensure that peace can be restored and killings stopped in Sri Lanka. As a result of the goods offices a pockage of proposals has been drawn up which is currently under discussion between the Sri Lanka Government and the TULF. Government have deplored the violence directed against Tamils in Sri Lanka and pointed out to the Sri Lankan Government that military offensives with escalating levels of violence will jeopardise the prospects for a political solution.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: In his statement the hon. Minister has started that there is no proposal at present to request the United Nations to send peace keeping forces for enforcing a cease-fire in Sri Lanka. After the acceptance of the cease-fire by the militant groups and Sri Lanka army, the massacre, killing, looting against the Tamils is going on. No day is peaceful. From the year 1985 till now, 3723 Tamils have been killed and 18,579 young Tamils have been arrested. When the atrocities committed by the army were brought to the notice of President Jayewardene, the spokesman of External Affairs Ministry had been reported in the *Hindu* some 15 days backi as saying that President Jayewardene himself has admitted his inability and helplessness, implying that Army of Sri Lanka is out of his control. Then he has held out a threat of war in his speech yesterday. Considering this change of circumstances, will the Government come

forward to request the UNO for the deploymet of a peace keeping force as it did in the case of Congo, Cyprus, South Korea and Jammu and Kashmir in 1948?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: There seems to be contradiction when President Jayewardene says that the army is out of his control and he also threatens a war. We believe that the security forces can be controlled by the Government of Sri Lanka. It has been our effort to bring this home to the Government of Sri Lanka and to point out the consequences of continuing indiscriminate violence. We have mentioned that there is no proposal to seek a United Nations force for several reasons. First of all, as you know, to get a UN peace keeping force one has to get a resolution passed in the Security Council, a resolution which is subject to veto. Secondly, there must be those who are prepared to contribute forces. And thirdly, Sir, it is rather ambiguous whether the consent of the State concerned is required for sending a UN force. In view of these uncertain circumstances and in view of our own policy that it would not be good to internationalise the Sri Lanka issue that must be solved in the context of Sri Lanka with the good offices of Government of India, that we would not like to pursue the proposal made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: The hon. Minister has expressed some difficulties in getting the peace keeping force from the United Nations. But, Sir, violence continues, military atrocities are escalating. I would like to know what the alternative measures are to protect the life, liberty and property of the Tamils.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: The alternative we have discussed in replying to the first question actually. There is no alternative in our view except to negotiate and to negotiate and put as much pressure as possible together with our good offices.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: My question arises out of what the hon. Minister has said about how it is not possible to internationalise the issue and the matter has only to be solved through negotiations with Sri Lankan Government. After all it is a problem that the Sri Lankan Government has to solve ultimately. In my analysis of the situation, President Jayewardene has been taking one stand at the negotiating table and another outside merely to placate his political opponent. Even originally he had taken a very hard stand in respect of all the issues. Then after the Indian delegation went there in May, he softened his stand in his talks with the Indian delegation and the Indian Government felt that there was a starting point from which we could begin to arrive at a political settlement Then at the political parties conference Jayewardene went entirely back on every thing he had said originally. He said the same thing at the political parties conference—that is, he would not hesitate to take unilateral action. Again when the team came here in July, he went back on his stand.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is time you put your question.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Therefore, my question to the

Minister is, in view of the fact that he is taking conflicting stands at the table and out side, has the Minister seen the latest statement as merely a gesture to placate his political opponents in Sri Lanka and not as a serious threat to the negotiations?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: What the honourable Member has said can be said to be one of the reasons. There are, obviously, other forces in Sri Lanka which do not like even this limited sort of autonomy which is offered under the package proposal under discussion now. This is a factor to be taken into consideration. But our effort is to keep the President and the Government of Sri Lanka to the track we have chosen which, we think, would be the best way of solving this problem and towards that end we propose to bend all efforts in order to make the negotiations credible and successful.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I entirely agree with the Government that nothing should be done to internationalize the Tamilian question. The honourable Minister has ruled out approaching the United Nations for the stationing of United Nations' forces in Sri Lanka, but the reply says, "There is no proposal at present." What does that mean? Am I to understand that the Government wants to keep the option open?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Why not?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: Sir, it only means that nobody has made any proposal. Certainly we have not made a proposal. We cannot predict if any other party might make any such proposal. This is what it means. But, certainly it is not the policy of the Government of India to bring in the United Nations into this.... (*Interruptions*)....

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: This would create misunderstanding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point which Mr. Vajpayee has made—and he was a Foreign Minister—is, if you say "at present" does it mean Government have any such idea in future?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: What is wrong in that?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: Sir, I can assure the honourable Member—and my former Foreign Minister—that Government does not intend to internationalize the issue or take it to the United Nations. But, of course, we cannot predict; in this world of ours which is uncertain.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN: It is all foreign to you now.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Sir, as has been stated by the honourable Minister, the alternative to the killings is negotiations and we know that the negotiations are going on mainly between the leader of TULF and the Sri Lanka Government with the help of the Government of India But I wish to bring to the notice of the honourable Minister that the militant groups do not own the TULF leader as their representative to negotiate and it appears they are not willing that the solutions arrived at by the TULF leader would be acceptable to them. Will the Minister consider getting the militant groups also to the negotiating table? Otherwise the negotiations between the leader of TULF and the group and the Sri Lanka Government with the good offices of the Government of India may become infructuous.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: Sir, we are aware of the reservations of the militant groups. In fact, the TULF itself went to the negotiating table with some reservations of their own. We are also in touch with the militant groups and they have told us that while they do not accept the proposals and while they have serious reservations about the proposals., they will not obstruct the negotiating process. It is on that basis that these negotiations have been going on.